Tripartite Committee and has also met the trade union leaders, whether he is going to hasten the process of this labour management Bill and try to get it passed in this session or at least in the Budget session so that this kind of politicking by the politicians could be arrested in future.

SHRI P.A.SANGMA: When the new inudstrial policy was announced, there was some apprehension in the minds of some sections of the workers including trade unions. There is no doubt about it. It is because of this reason that there was delegation of trade union leaders which met the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister on the 17th September. There it was agreed that special Tripartite Committee will be constituted to go into the effects of the new industrial policy. This Committee was, as I said set up at the request of the trade union leaders. This committee kept by the Government. Secondly, on many occasions, even on the floor of this House on 28th June when Prime Minister was replying to the debate on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Industry, he made it categorically clear that the new industrial policy will not lead to victimisation of workers and that it will take care of workers, interest. Therefore, we had tried to impress upon the trade union leaders that there was no need for going on strike as the matter was under discussion. In spite of that, some of the trade union had chosen to go on strike on 29th of November. As very rightly assessed by the hon. Member, this strike has had a marginal effect except in the States of West Bengal and Bihar where it was Government sponsored and partially in Kerala.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Shri Sangmaji, how about the meeting of West Bengal MPs including its Ministers held with you and what was the consensus? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.A.SANGMA: Hon. Membres of West Bengal are very good and they said that in future they will be very good.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: You were also good to assure them, how about it? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.A.SANGMA: As far as the second part of the question is concerned, we are very much interested in workers participation in management and a Bill has been introduced by the former Minister of Labour, Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji. The Bill is lying before the House. I am afraid that during this current Session of the House, we may not be able to take it up. But, we will certainly try to take it up in the next Session. I am not very sure about it. It is for the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to give priority.

MR. SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Violations of Minimum Wages Act

*288. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news-item appearing in the Indian Express dated September 23, 1991 regarding violations of the Minimum Wages Act;

(b) whether the Minimum wages Act is being violated in a number of States;

(c) if so, whether the workers are not

only paid low wages but are also forced to work for long hours;

(d) if so, the names of the State where the Minimum Wages Act is being violated; and

(e) the steps being taken by the government to impress upon the State Governments to fully implement the Minimum Wages Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL(SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir. the news item relates to violation of the provisions of Minimum Wages Act in the State of Punjab. As per th information furnished by the government of Punjab, out of 67 scheduled employments, minimum wages have been fixed for 60 scheduled employments and 100 Inspectors have been appointed for enforcement of the Minimum Wages Act. During April to September, 1991 for which the latest figures are available, 13,178 inspections in industrial units have been conducted and 623 prosecutions filed. During the same period, 423 establishments have been fined for commiting irregularities and an amount of Rs.76, 350 realised as fine.

(b) to (d). The responsibility for fixing/ revision and enforcement of the provisions of Minimum Wages Act in respect of the scheduled employments falling in the State sphere lies on the scheduled employments. All the State Governments have got the enforcement machinery for this purpose and action against the defaulting employers, as per the provisions of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is taken by the State Governments regularly.

(e). The Central Government have been impressing upon the State Governments from time to time regarding the urgent need for the effective enforcement of the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, through various National Tripartite Bodies like Indian Labour Conference and State Labour Ministers' Conferences, etc.

Equity participation by Japan in Maruti Udyog Ltd.

*289. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:
KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHLIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Suzki Motor Corporation of Japan has submitted a proposal to raise its equity in Maruti Udyog Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c). Suzuki Motor Corporation has made a proposal to Government for raising their equity participation in Maruti Udyog Ltd. The proposal is under examination.

Export By Indian Rare Earths Limited

*292 SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the products manufactured by the Indian Rare Earths Limited, Manavalakurichi (Tamilnadu) are being exported overseas; and

(b) if so, the details of the exports made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS(SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir. Part of the